

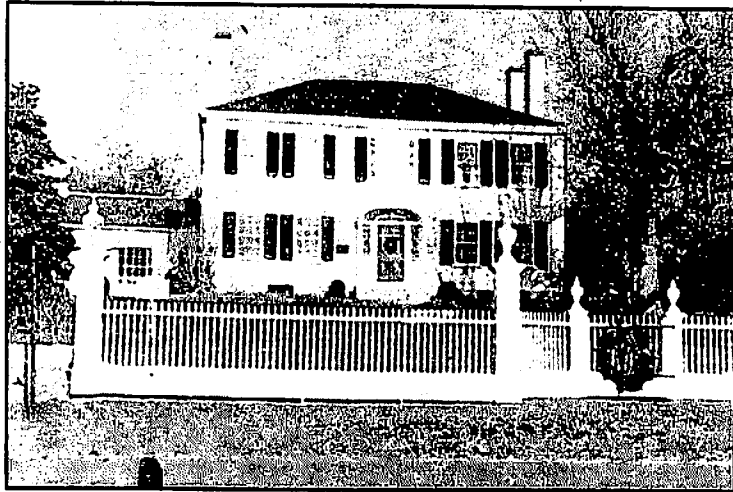
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Duxbury Clipper

Artifacts Highlight King Caesar Christmas Decorations

The 18th annual King Caesar House Christmas Tour on December 10-12 will showcase not only the talent of dedicated volunteer decorators, but also the fabulous collection of artifacts, which draw visitors to the King Caesar House year round. Decorators will give a glimpse of their decorating ideas. Items from the archives and the permanent collections will be the starting point for many of the period holiday decorations.

The West Parlor will be decorated to depict this year's theme, "Make a Joyful Noise...." Antique horns and other instruments will be used to give the visitor the feel of a well-used music room. The unusual three-legged melodeon, c. 1836 (manufactured by Packard Foss & Co. in Westbridge), that is a part of the permanent collection, will also be on display. The use of a monochromatic color scheme was chosen for the mantel in order to feature the famous, historic wallpapers in this room. Large white iron urns filled with white poinsettias, fruit topiaries and wreaths will also be used. The library will feature the newly restored Chippendale, oxbow front desk, c. 1790-1800, originally owned by Seth Sprague of



The King Caesar Christmas Tour is a highlight of the Duxbury Rural and Historical Society functions each year.

Duxbury, which was donated to DRHS in 1998 by Rosamund Gifford. A vignette in this room will allow the visitor to imagine King Caesar himself in the midst of wrapping a gift of gloves for his wife, Jerusha, that had just arrived on his ship, the *Hope*.

In the middle of the Summer Kitchen is the round table where Samuel Delano fed and warmed the sailors he had rescued from the *Rodney* (of London), which was shipwrecked off Duxbury Beach on November 25, 1792. Decorators will focus on this historic table set with the foods of the era to celebrate the Victorian holiday.

A Victorian Christmas guest

shown to the East Bedroom will be greeted by a room bedecked with brocaded ribbons, fresh flower arrangements in cut glass, ribbon swags, and ribbon arrangements. An antique German Christmas tree shimmers with cut glass and beaded ornaments, and a large holly topiary warms the room.

The House Tour will be open to the public on December 10 from 12-8 pm, and December 11 and 12 from 2-4 pm. Tickets can be purchased at the door, and the cost is \$10 and \$8 for seniors. Group tours can be arranged now by calling the Duxbury Rural and Historical Society at 934-6106.